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*Chairman*

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*Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

June 17, 2020

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* + [WebEx Online Trainings Available](https://pccd.webex.com/mw3300/mywebex/default.do?nomenu=true&siteurl=pccd&service=6&rnd=0.6668060301536507&main_url=https%3A%2F%2Fpccd.webex.com%2Fec3300%2Feventcenter%2Fprogram%2FprogramDetail.do%3FtheAction%3Ddetail%26internalProgramTicket%3D4832534b00000004f02f8b04a9132f726e6e4ce186c5f64209c4f9e1a94f0342f2c72bee2d69d4a5%26siteurl%3Dpccd%26internalProgramTicketUnList%3D4832534b00000004f02f8b04a9132f726e6e4ce186c5f64209c4f9e1a94f0342f2c72bee2d69d4a5%26cProgViewID%3D1727107%26PRID%3D9c0a5f356b9ee12dc7de27fe147bb352)Compensation Related: Basic Compensation and much more!

Credits towards VOCA/RASA/VOJO training requirements are available for all sessions (unless indicated otherwise in the session description). To receive training credits: 1) you must be logged into the session and 2) the WebEx application must be on your computer for the entire duration of the session. As the OVS recognizes that emergencies may arise and you may not be able to attend the entire session, there is no prohibition against attending part of a session (although training credits will not be given in that instance).

* + [Additional RASA/VOJO/VOCA Approved Training](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/6015900385323/WN_O8BSQqulR_aJrXhfHFwaNg)

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# Federal Coronavirus Relief Act (CARES Act) Funding Availability For Counties

With the passage of the [Federal Coronavirus Relief Act (CARES Act)](mailto:sbrendling@pa.gov?url=https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/748/text&data=02|01|kabuckley@pa.gov|7ac312f6c87645ee99b208d7fc009b4f|418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde|0|0|637254954965117876&sdata=GynB4CWQW97i9mmC/Xl2bhEHfGgbaxGxcjsp1zbGUv0=&reserved=0), PCCD has been tasked with distributing available funding to support state and local law enforcement's efforts in preventing, preparing for, and responding to the COVID-19/coronavirus. To assist in determining the funding strategy of these funds, you may remember that PCCD administered a survey in April 2020 to chief administrators of criminal justice system stakeholders to ascertain levels of need throughout the Commonwealth. Many of you, as victim service providers, completed this survey.

To that end, PCCD released a funding solicitation to initially make available approximately one-half of Pennsylvania’s eligible state share CESF dollars ($8,000,000) to PA counties for the express purpose of providing support to each county’s law enforcement community, which includes, but is not limited to, county jails, juvenile detention centers, local law enforcement, district attorney’s offices, county probation and parole offices, judiciary/court houses, victim service providers and any other relevant criminal justice stakeholders.

It’s important to note that this funding announcement is open to Pennsylvania counties with active county Criminal Justice Advisory Boards (CJABs) that follow [CJAB Minimum Operating Standards](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Pages/default.aspx?url=https://www.pccd.pa.gov/criminaljustice/advisory_boards/Documents/CJAB%20Minimum%20Operating%20Standards.pdf&data=02|01|kabuckley@pa.gov|7ac312f6c87645ee99b208d7fc009b4f|418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde|0|0|637254954965117876&sdata=inAJtTpgiS7DqT79K/SQKM1br3SpKrsCR0vBdSXhON8=&reserved=0) or an alternative as described in the funding announcement.  CJABs will be responsible for coordinating the application for their county and local criminal justice stakeholders (i.e., county jails, juvenile detention centers, law enforcement, district attorney’s offices, county probation and parole offices, judiciary/court houses, victim service providers and any other relevant criminal justice stakeholders). Victim Service providers are not eligible to apply directly to PCCD for these funds but should contact their CJAB regarding any immediate PPE/supply needs, if their current VOCA funding is not sufficient to support these items. If you are not sure who the CJAB contact is in your area, please visit the CJAB information located on PCCD’s website at [https://www.pccd.pa.gov/criminaljustice/advisory\_boards/Pages/CJABS.aspx](https://www.ciclt.net/sn/events/e_signup.aspx?url=https://www.pccd.pa.gov/criminaljustice/advisory_boards/Pages/CJABS.aspx&data=02|01|kabuckley@pa.gov|7ac312f6c87645ee99b208d7fc009b4f|418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde|0|0|637254954965127828&sdata=L13MyI69Siik7gAIP3NpPD9Q3eYvBAh4Q7PCkhdOfBI=&reserved=0)

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# Information and Resources Related To COVID 19

Below is Information and Resources related to how COVID 19 impacts services to victims of crime.

* Pennsylvania Department of Health: [Pennsylvania Coronavirus Updates](mailto:RA-OVAinfo@pa.gov?url=https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx&data=02|01|kabuckley@pa.gov|694cf676626848de5f9f08d7c9d1fad2|418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde|0|0|637199776716762436&sdata=28nnh6wjNgRBSWlDhsApjUiQD/ziHh3CxzmHzXDztyc=&reserved=0).  Information can also be found on their [Facebook](https://pccd.webex.com/mw3300/mywebex/default.do?url=https://u7061146.ct.sendgrid.net/ls/click?upn=4tNED-2FM8iDZJQyQ53jATUb8Hzhz9hTfMErRs-2Fni8h9iPhC1aY9BVhaOWCOMHTTu2h5NLOsx8HG3SenlmX9HAow-3D-3DRgXI_hdLF3rLJhzTRPT2w-2FGfeA8E2Ufo9uchaw2FUkqw0VAAtxwI3imaVW2pcEabk6UbHNkwk42E4T0jUmxuJYF34ZXhzaO495n5u6ycew-2FsobnMyRmOc49luwrw8qv73LNa8UwrpHlnyiNGdN1TC1n0iGre0SUmIStbQzy-2BjMk-2Fb0ZgshbBdSkMFf0BJujaYhj9f33DYFW2VP5R0xFlSS-2FpGZxl7L0Mm1eiZZMIqgyi-2F24gZGPS5vZbnMHa9AotF6gWhR25UXFvjVeHX8BEWwnFfviALVals8O7yUXW8d3a4X0wicdLgen-2F-2Bk8G72WuKIj7KuKquTvxDhyH3SVKE9UZVGA-3D-3D&data=02|01|kabuckley@pa.gov|694cf676626848de5f9f08d7c9d1fad2|418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde|0|0|637199776716762436&sdata=0o0rPae93gS3bCFTA2Pzk0QZs1lc66qJchjTh2uhw3g=&reserved=0) page and [Twitter](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fu7061146.ct.sendgrid.net%2Fls%2Fclick%3Fupn%3D4tNED-2FM8iDZJQyQ53jATUaQdhrH0jN5hsgJK-2BcC12hTUfg9GzNQM72tOTY4m8nddlqdZMm-2FxijNPa9rMG37uwa-2Br2LvStqlztiDDdeF-2FtADJwiG0kyJ5rHQuTvAhpQ9qToVY_hdLF3rLJhzTRPT2w-2FGfeA8E2Ufo9uchaw2FUkqw0VAAtxwI3imaVW2pcEabk6UbHNkwk42E4T0jUmxuJYF34ZXhzaO495n5u6ycew-2FsobnMyRmOc49luwrw8qv73LNa8UwrpHlnyiNGdN1TC1n0iGre0SUmIStbQzy-2BjMk-2Fb0ZgshbBdSkMFf0BJujaYhj9fvart2p1FcC23X-2Bocon9y3toG2i5NciviAn9yZARheij6PfJEAw45iG1ww8d07pHU-2Fz41-2FzceO8DXngcwd4sPGvNrlVyAJSI-2FCX2r-2BinvrlpibouKcV-2FJq3padVjgyCDn898n1kpdUgMg61PJ-2BXTkRw-3D-3D&data=02%7C01%7Ckabuckley%40pa.gov%7C694cf676626848de5f9f08d7c9d1fad2%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637199776716772434&sdata=msyZfIw3iMWV%2F0xWo%2F2Vfh4v6rlPep%2BtV3cMG3vgb4A%3D&reserved=0) account.
* Please see PCCD’s COVID-19 information page for subrecipients at [https://www.pccd.pa.gov/Funding/Pages/Subrecepients.aspx](https://vawnet.org/news/preventing-managing-spread-covid-19-within-domestic-violence-programs). As we continue to monitor the Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation and the uncertainty related to when everyone's normal business operations may resume, we will update this page with important information and guidance for our subrecipients.
* RAINN, here are new resources for “Sexual Violence Preparedness and Response During COVID-19”: [https://www.rainn.org/articles/sexual-violence-preparedness-and-response-during-covid-19](mailto:sbrendling@pa.gov?url=https://www.rainn.org/articles/sexual-violence-preparedness-and-response-during-covid-19&data=02|01|bcc@fireeyeatp.pa.gov|ae93af9b980648c2a96208d7eaea55b7|418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde|0|0|637236165963677755&sdata=Av57O5TloNRCDb8BZInpn+sH+dKse+3JlGqeHoWlLHU=&reserved=0)
* The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence regularly updates its resources relevant to COVID-19 and victim services at [http://www.ncadv.org/covid-19-and-domestic-violence](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Pages/RASA-VOCA-VOJO-Trainings.aspx?url=http://www.ncadv.org/covid-19-and-domestic-violence&data=02|01|bcc@fireeyeatp.pa.gov|ae93af9b980648c2a96208d7eaea55b7|418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde|0|0|637236165963697670&sdata=eJkbkg5++YYYkk1IEWnF1fgI6CtFncyCNOHS3jrZrW4=&reserved=0)
* From the Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council, here’s a report about coronavirus-related discrimination: [http://www.asianpacificpolicyandplanningcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/STOP\_AAPI\_HATE\_MONTHLY\_REPORT\_4\_23\_20.pdf](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/)
* Given the current COVID-19 crisis, outreach and education is taking place at a distance. The [National Council on Aging tip sheet](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/)provides an overview of some popular tools to reach out to and connect with your audience.
* NRCDV gathered select resources that can offer helpful guidance for domestic violence programs in preparing for and responding to the coronavirus pandemic. Click here to access the information: [Preventing & Managing the Spread of COVID-19 Within Domestic Violence Programs](https://e.givesmart.com/events/e1u/)
* 19 Resources + Guidance for CACs: Chart our path with NCA's roadmap for Children's Advocacy Centers and communities on delivering critical services to children and families during the coronavirus outbreak. [https://learn.nationalchildrensalliance.org/covid](http://www.pcv.pccd.pa.gov)
* COVID-19 is creating new challenges for survivors with disabilities and their service providers. Visit our [Sustaining Services for Survivors with Disabilities During COVID-19](https://www.endabusepwd.org/covid-19/) page for more information and resources**.**
* [Free COVID-19 Language Access Response](https://prdpccd.pwpca.pa.gov/Funding/Pages/Subrecepients.aspx)
* National Children’s Alliance Resource Page: [Coronavirus Resources for CACS, Partners, and Caregivers](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/)
* The National Sexual Violence Resource Center provides some key resources and recommendations on COVID-19 as it relates to our work to end sexual harassment, abuse, and assault [https://www.nsvrc.org/blogs/resources-for-covid-19-response](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/)
* PCADV’s website provides useful information & resources for domestic violence programs, victims, and survivors: [https://www.pcadv.org/coronavirus-covid-19-resources/](http://www.asianpacificpolicyandplanningcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/STOP_AAPI_HATE_MONTHLY_REPORT_4_23_20.pdf)
* The World Health Organization released important guidelines with plenty of URL links to additional information about “mental health and psychosocial considerations during COVIC-19 outbreak” that are quite relevant to our work: [https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/mental-health-considerations.pdf?sfvrsn=6d3578af\_8](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.who.int%2Fdocs%2Fdefault-source%2Fcoronaviruse%2Fmental-health-considerations.pdf%3Fsfvrsn%3D6d3578af_8&data=02%7C01%7CKAbuckley%40pa.gov%7Cf65403a4f367484e40d808d7ca64c52e%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637200407854779080&sdata=QkVlTCVGfopgiHSlCD8De3GKEERQ5wgHKxwNoHgHSGI%3D&reserved=0)
* The National Center for Victims of Crime has a Facebook online group for information and support: [Crime Victims Community in COVID-19](https://celery-apple-e4zh.squarespace.com/free-covid-19-response)
* The Vera Institute has launched a free daily “Coronavirus Justice News Digest” and you can sign up [here](https://learn.nationalchildrensalliance.org/covid?u=6542df2be696ba0ea2f17b66a&id=97589658a4).
* Office of Victim Advocate (OVA) services are now being provided by a combination of office staff observing social distancing guidelines and staff members teleworking. The best way to reach their office is by email at [RA-OVAinfo@pa.gov](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/). Their phone lines remain open Monday – Friday 8am – 4pm at 800-563-6399. For more information, please click [here](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1427716924075500/).

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# Next STOP Competitive Solicitation Will Occur In 2021

OVS staff are embarking on the planning process for use of Pennsylvania’s STOP Formula Grant funding over the period 2021 through 2024.  The first meeting was scheduled for March 19-20, 2020.  However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was cancelled.  Given the timeframe for completion, OVS reached out to the federal Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) for clarification and additional guidance on how to proceed with the implementation planning process.  OVW staff advised us that Pennsylvania’s STOP Implementation Plan is due with the state’s 2021 application for STOP Formula Grant Funds.  This means that the planning meetings can be postponed and rescheduled this year.

The development of the STOP Implementation Plan provides a meaningful and collaborative planning process that shapes the STOP funding announcements.  Since the STOP Implementation Plan is not due until PCCD’s 2021 application, PCCD consulted with the STOP Implementation Planning Committee and they agreed with PCCD’s plan to augment and extend all currently funded STOP Projects for an additional year.  The finalization of the STOP Implementation Plan that will occur in early 2021, will inform the content and structure of the next STOP Competitive Solicitation which now will released in the summer of 2021.

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# Job Openings In The Office Of Victims’ Services

The Office of Victims’ Services (OVS) at the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) currently has vacancies for Criminal Justice System Specialists within the Victims Compensation Assistance Program that will be posted within the next few weeks. These positions are responsible for providing financial reimbursement/guidance and other compensation related services to victims of crime, their families and/or significant others, and other claimants.

The vacancies are not posted at this time but should post in the next few weeks.  You can apply for the Criminal Justice System Specialist 1 vacancy at [https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/pabureau](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/). In the Search box, type Criminal Justice System Specialist and hit enter.  If any jobs are currently open, they will be listed.  Unlike in the past, there is no examination where a prospective candidate can be placed on a list with a score.  Under the new system, the score you receive is for that particular job announcement.  Interested candidates will need to apply for each individual position.

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# ATTENTION VOJO PROGRAMS – VOJO LAPSING FUNDS – PLEASE DON’T FORGET TO USE YOUR VOJO FUNDING BY JUNE 30, 2020!

Recipients of 2019 VOJO (VJ) funds, denoted on your Award Letter as:

2019 VJ Award Amount      $ xx.xx

2019 VJ Project Period        7/1/2019 - 6/30/2020

This is a reminder that ***VOJO funds not expended or obligated from this funding source by June 30, 2020 will lapse****.*

Any outstanding obligations as of 6/30/2020 should be reported in the Outstanding Subgrantee Obligations column on the fiscal report for the period ending 6/30/2020.

An interim fiscal report will need to be submitted once the reported Outstanding Subgrantee Obligations are paid.  A remark must be included noting the reported expenditures were attributable to the period 7/1/2019-6/30/2020.

**It is the responsibility of the subgrantee to monitor these amounts**.

If you have any questions or need to request a copy of your Award Letter, **please contact the fiscal contact staff person listed on your VOJO grant**.

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# Developing A Rigorous, Systematic Methodology To Identify And Categorize Elder Mistreatment In Criminal Justice Data

Elder mistreatment is complex, with cases typically requiring integrated responses from social services, medicine, civil law, and criminal justice. Only limited research exists describing elder mistreatment prosecution and its impact. Researchers have not yet examined administrative prosecutorial data to explore mistreatment response, and no standardized analytic approach exists. A rigorous, systematic methodologic approach was developed to identify elder mistreatment cases in prosecutorial data from cases of crimes against victims aged ≥60. Please click [here](https://www.nsvrc.org/blogs/resources-for-covid-19-response?src=recsys&) to read more.

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# Changes In Victimization Risk And Disparities For Heterosexual And Sexual Minority Youth: Trends From 2009 To 2017

The aim of this study was to identify sex-stratified trends in victimization risk specific to heterosexual, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and questioning youth while considering changes in sexual orientation-disparities from 2009-2017. Please click [here](https://www.pcadv.org/coronavirus-covid-19-resources/) to learn more.

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# Special Release: Just COVID-19: The Impact To Supporting Victims Of Sexual Assault

Social distancing, shelter in place, and other responses to COVID-19 can create a stressful environment for survivors of sexual assault especially if they feel they cannot access resources or are physically unable to seek help. In addition, highly stressful situations that result from significant amounts of change, such as unemployment, disruption in ‘normal’ activities, and social isolation may increase the risk of domestic violence and sexual assault. In this podcast, they will discuss what services are available to survivors of sexual assault, including leveraging on-line platforms and modified strategies for first responders, rape crisis centers, and victim advocates. They will also discuss how we as a friend, family member, and community can be prepared to respond to a victim of sexual assault in this challenging time. Please click [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/Licensed%20or%20Soon%20to%20be%20Licensed%20Clinical%20Counselor.pdf) to learn more.

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# How Can Advocates Better Understand Transformative Justice And Its Connection To Gender-Based Violence Intervention And Prevention Work?

As advocates and preventionists, we often name safety, healing, and prevention as both our priorities and core values. We want to center these things, not only for survivors of gender-based violence but for all communities. Those conversations around what actually keeps us safe, what actually allows survivors and communities to heal and thrive, and what will actually end violence, need to address the inadequacies and harm inherent in incarceration and policing. Please click [here](https://www.ova.pa.gov/Services/COVID-19%20Guidance%20and%20Resources/Pages/default.aspx) to read more.

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# Preparing For Fallout: As State Reopens, Advocates Expect Spike In Abuse Reports

The plea for help wasn’t one that a boss expects to hear from an employee working from home. During a video conference call, the employee confided her husband had beaten her. Police were called, the husband was removed, but the woman said she still did not feel safe.

“She wanted someone to know the situation; she was afraid he’d come and kill her,” said Ifeoma Aduba, interim executive director for A Woman’s Place, Bucks County’s domestic violence services provider. Aduba learned about the exchange after the woman’s boss contacted A Woman’s Place looking for guidance.

It’s the kind of outreach effort that is happening far less often during the coronavirus pandemic in Pennsylvania. Police and social service agencies report a steep drop in reports involving abuse and crimes against children, the elderly, intimate partners and sexual assault victims. Job losses, social isolation, and the disruption of everyday routines have increased domestic tensions and frustrations, which can explode into physical violence. But victims have been isolated with their abusers, likely too afraid to seek help. Please click [here](https://vera.us8.list-manage.com/subscribe) to read more.

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# A Woman’s Place - Employment Opportunities

A Woman’s Place (AWP), a community-based social change organization serving victims of domestic violence, is seeking a part-time Resident Counseling Advocate and a full-time Bi-Lingual First Response Advocate.

The Resident Counseling Advocate works within AWP’s emergency safe house, assisting victims of domestic violence in achieving safety and self-sufficiency. AWP is currently hiring a 32 hour a week part-time position. Positions may include weekday, evening, and/or overnight shifts.

The Bi-Lingual First Response Advocate provides immediate crisis and safety counseling to victims of domestic violence when contacted by local police departments and provides court accompaniment through the criminal justice system with a focus on the Spanish speaking population. AWP is hiring 1 full-time position requiring schedule flexibility to assist in providing 24/7 response. Must be fluent in Spanish.

For full job descriptions and application process please visit our website: [https://awomansplace.org/get-involved/](https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/08946566.2020.1733725?url=https://awomansplace.org/get-involved/&data=02|01|sbrendling@pa.gov|05605b711196466a36e808d7e6103c13|418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde|0|0|637230829715543440&sdata=crkTLivE1w+z/affAbsTKBDUZRftplAHRgjpzYrABJ0=&reserved=0)

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# NEW! Network of Victim Assistance - Employment Opportunities

Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA) is a nonprofit organization serving victims of sexual assault and other crimes. Located in Bucks County, PA, NOVA is the comprehensive victim services organization in Bucks County.  With a 45-year history, NOVA has expanded to include a continuum of prevention and direct services to prevent and address the needs of victims of sexual abuse and other serious crimes.  NOVA is known across many disciplines and the community at large for its exceptional services and professionalism.  With a 4.5-million-dollar operating budget, NOVA continues to grow.  As a mature and fiscally sound organization, establishing sustainability is key to our future success -- serving all victims who need services, educating the community at large on violence prevention in our community, and providing top-ranked professional trainings.

[**Data Management and Quality Assurance (DMQA)**](https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1054139X19304173)

[**Licensed or Soon to be Licensed Clinical Counselor**](https://d2mkcg26uvg1cz.cloudfront.net/wp-content/uploads/Tools-for-Reaching-a-Remote-Audience.pdf)

[**Part-time Human Trafficking Task Force Organizer** **(27 hours/week)**](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/)

[**Training Coordinator**](https://learn.nationalchildrensalliance.org/covid)

[**Bucks County Children’s Advocacy Center Part-Time Family Advocate**](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/Bucks%20County%20CAC%20Family%20Advocate.pdf)

Located in Bucks County, PA, the Bucks County Children’s Advocacy Center (CAC), a service of NOVA (Network of Victim Assistance), provides a safe and child-friendly environment in which the CAC staff, law enforcement, child welfare, prosecution, advocacy, medical and mental health professionals collaborate to implement effective and coordinated investigations of suspected child abuse and connect child victims and their families to medical, mental health, and other social services.

**Competitive salary and excellent benefits. Applicants must send a cover letter with salary requirements in addition to their resume to** [**DebGH@novabucks.org**](https://vawnet.org/news/how-can-advocates-better-understand-transformative-justice-and-its-connection-gender-based)**. AA/EOE.**

**NOVA is currently working remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic.  Although the physical interview process is on hold, they are still reviewing all the applicants as they come in.  They will be conducting in-person interviews as soon as possible.**

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# Linguistic Justice In Victim Research

Have you ever wondered how language barriers play into research on victims of crime? In this podcast episode of Tell Us About It, Gabriela López-Zerón sheds light on how language access plays a key role in working with multiracial, multicultural victims. Please click [here](https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/pabureau) to learn more.

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# NSVRC Online Learning On Your Schedule

Did you know? The National Sexual Violence Resource Center and the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape have developed dozens of online learning tools, and they are all available to you for free! With so much content, we have created lists of courses for you to use if you want to learn something new or brush up on old skills. These lists in no way encompass all of the great materials our campus has to offer, so sign up and take whatever looks interesting to you. Please click [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/Human%20Trafficking%20Task%20Force%20Organizer.pdf) to learn more.

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# Issues Facing Remote Advocates: Peer Exchange Call

Thursday, June 18, 2020

2:00 p.m.

Advocates working in rural areas face a variety of unique challenges while assisting survivors of DV and SA. Join this Peer Exchange Call to share how COVID 19 has exacerbated challenges related to securing economic and physical safety and share strategies with other rural advocates on ways to alleviate these challenges. Advocates who are used to working in remote or isolated conditions can also share their techniques and promising practices with those who are experiencing distancing for the first time.

Please click [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/Data%20Management%20and%20Quality%20Assurance.pdf) to learn more.

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# Enhancing Services To Male Survivors Series: Changing The Narrative

Wednesday, June 24, 2020

2:00 – 3:30 p.m. EDT

Shame and stigma are devastating for many male victims. Like many female victims of abuse, male victims often fear that their complaints will not be taken seriously or that they will be blamed for the abuse if they tell anyone. Many programs continue to struggle with the idea of making shelter services more gender inclusive. In part one of the Enhancing Services to Male Survivors Series, presenters will engage in a discussion about including a gender-conscious philosophical framework for enhanced services to male survivors of domestic violence that links to and builds upon the historical roots of the movement against gender-based violence and is consistent with anti-discrimination laws and related grant conditions.

Please click [here](https://events-na13.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/2356533113/en/events/event/shared/default_template/event_registration.html?connect-session=na1breez836td7h6bqrvfxim&sco-id=3507987945&campaign-id=NRCDV%20Newsletter&_charset_=utf-8) to register.

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# Faith Matters: Supporting Jewish, Christian, And Muslim Survivors Of Domestic Violence

Wednesday, June 24, 2020

3:00 – 4:15 p.m. EDT

This workshop will help advocates adopt a faith-sensitive lens and best practices for supporting families who are guided by their faith. Participants will learn how faith can be a resource or a barrier to hope, help, and healing, gain insight into faith-specific understandings, be aware of best practices and resources for engaging faith leadership as allies, and begin to strategize for working with them in their communities. The presenters are members of the Interfaith Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence.

Please click [here](mailto:DebGH@novabucks.org?connect-session=na13breezrui97if2arrtfeo9&sco-id=4196444959&_charset_=utf-8) to register.

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# Webinar: Elder Abuse: What Do We Know From Research And Practice?

Tuesday, June 30, 2020

2:00 – 3:00 p.m. ET

The Center for Victim Research (CVR) invites you to attend their upcoming webinar, “Elder Abuse: What Do We Know from Research and Practice” which will focus on the current evidence surrounding challenges faced by older adult victims of crime.

Topics covered will include:

* Types of elder abuse and how often they occur
* Harms experienced by older adult victims
* Factors that put older adults at greater risk of abuse
* What we know about effective services and interventions
* Where the field needs to grow

[Please](https://www.poconorecord.com/news/20200608/preparing-for-fallout-as-state-reopens-advocates-expect-spike-in-abuse-reports?reg=7098&evt=cvr-ElderAbuse&t=643388843) click [here](https://forensiccoe.org/sr-covid-19-saam2020/?reg=7098&evt=cvr-ElderAbuse&t=643388843&t=1591973388155) to register.

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# Victims Compensation Online Trainings

The following trainings will be held on June 17, 2020.

* Funeral & Burial Expenses Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Loss of Earnings Clinic - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on June 23, 2020.

* Stolen Benefit Cash Expenses Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Medical Expenses Clinic - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following training will be held on July 1, 2020.

* Basic Compensation - 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

The following trainings will be held on July 8, 2020.

* Loss of Support Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Counseling Expenses Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on July 22, 2020.

* Relocation Expenses Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* “Wow, That’s Covered by Compensation” – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on July 28, 2020.

* Myths of Compensation – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Motor Vehicle-Related Crime Expenses Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on August 4, 2020.

* Stolen Benefit Cash Expenses Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Funeral & Burial Expenses Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on August 12, 2020.

* Loss of Earnings Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Medical Expenses Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following training will be held on August 18, 2020.

* Basic Compensation – 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

The following training will be held on August 27, 2020.

* Restitution Basics – 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

All trainings count towards 1 hour of the required RASA/VOCA/VOJO training hours, except Basic Compensation, which counts towards 2 hours, and DAVE training, which counts towards 2 hours and 15 minutes.

Please click [here](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?siteurl=pccd&service=6) to register.

A recording of the Sexual Assault Counseling Claims Legislative Change WebEx is available [here](https://victimresearch.org/podcast/tell-us-about-it-episode-26-linguistic-justice-in-victim-research/?siteurl=pccd&service=6). This training can be accessed at any time for viewing.

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# Pennsylvania Victim Services Training (PVST) Online Learning Management System

PCCD’s Office of Victims’ Services (OVS) offers its Pennsylvania Victim Services Training (PVST) Online Learning Management System to fill a need for easily accessible, high-quality, free training for victim advocates at PCCD-funded programs. PVST courses count for PCCD training hours and courses can be taken as the learner’s schedule permits. The PVST also keeps a record of a user’s course completion and credit hours earned.  The courses on the PVST are designed to complement, reinforce and enhance the PCCD Foundational Academy and the online offerings on the learning management systems operated by PCADV, PCAR and the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association.

The PVST is resource center for PCCD funded programs and allied professionals whose work brings them into contact with crime victim populations to receive free, quality, and easily accessible training. The training is Pennsylvania-specific, web based, and can be taken on the student’s own timeframe. There are currently 28 approved programs, totaling 54 hours of training, on the PVST.

To access the PVST, go to the website at [https://pavictimservicestraining.org/](https://www.nsvrc.org/blogs/online-learning-your-schedule).  The registration code is 7223.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact the lives of Pennsylvanians, the economic impact continues to grow for many. The courses two courses highlighted below will assist victim advocates address economic issues faced by victims of crime and provide knowledge and information about the Victims Compensation Assistance Program (VCAP).

“Economic Justice for Victims of Crime” will give learners guidance in addressing economic issues faced by victims of crime. Specifically, the training will enhance the ability of victim advocates to identify economic issues that result from and/or arise simultaneously as a crime.

“Wading Through the Victims Compensation Assistance Program” will equip attendee with knowledge and information about the Victims Compensation Assistance Program (VCAP) and Financial Recovery for crime victims and how to maneuver through the application process for restitution.

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# HAVIN Presents: Strand Squared

HAVIN’s free training is still on! The training will now be virtual. You can attend the training from your office, home, or wherever.

A link will be sent out prior to the training that will allow you access to the training. Attached is the updated brochure. Please pre-register by June 18, 2020.  There is a limit of 100 attendees via ZOOM!

If you have already registered and plan to participate, you do not need to register again. Everyone will need to provide an email address so they receive an email with the link for the training.

NO technical support will be provided for the training.

**Law Enforcement Officer reimbursement is available for Armstrong County Law Enforcement.**

Please click [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/Training%20Coordinator.pdf) for more information.

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# Webinar: Virtual Conversation: Victims’ Rights In The Era Of COVID-19

June 18, 2020 & June 19, 2020

1:30 p.m.

A series of panel discussions with leading victims’ rights advocates on fighting for victims’ rights during COVID and how we can face future challenges to victims’ rights. This is an opportunity to discuss strategies to ensure victims’ rights and interests are factored in standing court and executive orders, and the many policies emerging that dictate our new ways of life.

Please click [here](https://secure.icohere.com/registration/register.cfm?timezone_id=America/New_York) to learn more and to register.

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# REGISTRATION OPEN: 2020 PLAN VOCA Grantee Training

In place of the two-day in-person PLAN VOCA Grantee training which was scheduled for June 23 & 24, 2020 in Harrisburg, we are offering 12 one-hour webinars throughout the month of June.  This will satisfy the 10-hour mandatory training and offer two extra training hours.  These webinars will also offer 1 CLE credit each for participation.

Please see the attached document for the schedule, session information and registration links.  PLEASE NOTE:  PLAN has upgraded our Zoom account.  We are now able to accommodate 500 participants per webinar so we should not have to worry about hitting a maximum number of participants.  **YOU MUST REGISTER FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL SESSION TO BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE.**  You will receive a confirmation email after you register for each session.  Please keep these emails as it will give you the information to join the sessions.

Certificates of Participation for your personnel files will be sent out after all of the sessions have been completed.  **PLEASE NOTE: PERSONS WORKING UNDER A VOCA GRANT MUST COMPLETE THE TRAINING HOURS AND HAVE THE DOCUMENTATION IN THEIR PERSONNEL FILES.**

Please click [here](https://events-na13.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/2361243497/en/events/event/shared/2363085293/event_registration.html) for more information.

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# Topical Training Announcement: Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

In the state of Pennsylvania over 80,000 children are being raised by their grandparents, many due to the opioid crisis. In recent years legislation has been passed, pilot programs developed, and hotlines created to assist grandparents in taking on this overwhelming task. If you are interested in learning more about this topic and tools to help you when working with victims who are in this situation, register for this important training.

Monday, August 10, 2020

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The Graduate Hotel

125 South Atherton Street

State College, PA 16801

**Registration closes on July 24, 2020**. This course is open to all victim service providers, including attorneys. Class size is limited to 40 attendees.

Please click [here](https://secure.icohere.com/registration/register.cfm?ClientCode=pdaa&E_ID=500203&RegType=ATT) to learn more and to register.

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# Training Announcement: Generational Diversity In The Workplace & Communication Skills

Tuesday, September 22, 2020

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Learn how generational differences in the workplace and working with the public, especially crime victims, impact the ways we communicate and understand each other. This training provides tools for better communication among our colleagues, the public and our supervisors; and offers guidance to understand learning differences, knowing our audiences, and improving our messaging so that we can perform our jobs most effectively.  
  
One week before the training: Please provide to Amy Smulktis any situations or questions you have where communications could have been improved, for discussion among the group.  
  
**PCCD has approved this course for 2 annual training hours. *Class size is limited to 40 attendees***.

**Please click** [here](https://pavictimservicestraining.org/?ClientCode=pdaa&E_ID=500215&RegType=ATT) **to learn more and to register. Registration closes on September 1, 2020.**

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# SAVE THE DATE: 2020 KCIT Conference: Conscious Resilience After Trauma

“Keystone Crisis Intervention Team is excited to share the date for our 2nd statewide conference, September 22-23, 2020.  The theme of our Conference this year is Conscious Resilience After Trauma.  KCIT’s focus on building Conscious Resilience is an acknowledgement of the impact and emotional toll that trauma has on our clients, organizations, communities, but more specifically—you—the helper.”

The Conference will be held on September 22-23, 2020 in York, PA at Heritage Hills Resort.

For Questions: please contact Donna Welsh at [donna.welsh@novabucks.org](https://vawnet.org/events/issues-facing-remote-advocates-peer-exchange-call)

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# SAVE THE DATE: Network Of Victim Assistance Auction & Gala

Thursday, October 15, 2020

5:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Warrington Country Club

1360 Almshouse Road

Warrington, PA 18976

This year's theme, An Evening in the Roaring 20's, will take guests back 100 years to the 1920's and will feature 20's themed food stations, dancing, drinks, entertainment and live and silent auctions. Auction items include a private dinner party at Bocelli's Italian Restaurant, a spring yard clean-up package, a garden tea party for 8, dining experiences, adventures and getaways, artwork, jewelry, museum, theater and sports tickets and much more! New auction items are added weekly. Event proceeds benefit NOVA’s work in both helping victims of crime and preventing violence through education and advocacy programs.

Tickets for the Auction & Gala are $85.00 per person. The dress code for the event is business casual or 1920's themed attire. To purchase tickets, make a donation, or receive more information, please click [here](https://pccd.webex.com/mw3300/mywebex/default.do), or contact Jill Mann at 215-343-6543 ext. 6602. Those who are unable to attend the gala can still get in on the auction fun and bid on items online via [www.NOVA.givesmart.com](http://www.pccd.pa.gov), by clicking on "Register to Participate" and following the prompts.

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If your program is offering new or extended services, or implementing new initiatives that you would like to highlight, please submit your news article to Stacie Brendlinger at [sbrendling@pa.gov](https://prdpccd.pwpca.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/Strand%20brochure%20-%20Virtual.pdf).

The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, **July 1, 2020**. If you would like any training events, fundraisers, or notable news published in this newsletter, please submit them to Stacie Brendlinger at [sbrendling@pa.gov](mailto:sbrendling@pa.gov) by Wednesday, **June 24, 2020**.

You have signed up to receive the OVS Newsletter from the Office of Victims' Services. This newsletter will be sent to you on a biweekly basis via email. If your email address changes or you would like to be removed from the OVS Newsletter distribution list, please contact Stacie Brendlinger at (717) 265-8722 or via email at [sbrendling@pa.gov](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/OVS%20Newsletter/VOCA%20Grantee%20Training%20Schedule.pdf).

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Pennsylvania’s [Office of Victims’ Services](https://e.givesmart.com/events/e1u/) | 3101 North Front Street | Harrisburg, PA 17110 | (717) 783-0551

[www.pccd.pa.gov](https://www.ciclt.net/sn/events/e_signup.aspx)

**PA Crime Victims Website**

[www.pcv.pccd.pa.gov](mailto:donna.welsh@novabucks.org)

**Twitter:** [@PaCrimeCom](https://twitter.com/PaCrimeComm)m.